

## Register results

The following regulations have been issued by Federal agencies. They have previously been summarized in CONSUMER REGISTER as proposals. Extent of consumer comment on each item is reported when such information is available.

- Beginning Aug. 10, 1976, **Consumer Product Safety Commission** (CPSC) will ban hazardous non-full sized cribs & establish safety requirements for other non-full sized cribs (such as portable cribs). Safety standards already exist for full sized cribs. CPSC received 15 comments on its proposal: 7 from manufacturers, 6 from "interested individuals," one from a trade association & one from the Consumer Affairs Unit of the City of Syracuse, NY. **Food & Drug Administration** (FDA) also wrote a letter inquiring about cribs in hospitals. Comments were generally in favor of the proposal. CPSC has determined that the economic impact of the regulation is negligible—copies of the economic impact statement are on file at the office of the Secretary, CPSC. Details—*Federal Register*: Feb. 12, page 6238; May 9, 1975, page 20297. CONSUMER REGISTER: June 1, 1975.

- To implement the Noise Control Act of 1972, **Environmental Protection Agency** (EPA) will require all new locomotives made after Dec. 31, 1979, to be equipped with mufflers. The original proposal included provisions for equipping existing locomotives with mufflers, but this provision was dropped from the final regulations. Details—*Federal Register*: Jan. 14, page 2184; July 3, 1974, page 24579. CONSUMER REGISTER: Sept. 15, 1974.

## Red #2 (continued)

Effective Feb. 12, **Food & Drug Administration** (FDA) banned the use of a red food dye (FD&C Red No. 2) in food, drugs & cosmetics (including pet food & animal feed).

Red No. 2, which has been used for 68 years, was banned because its safety has not been established. However, existing products containing this dye are not being recalled.

An inflation impact statement is not required in final actions.

Details—*Federal Register*: Feb 13, page 6774. CONSUMER REGISTER: Feb. 1.

## Glass

March 8 is deadline for comments on **Consumer Product Safety Commission's** (CPSC) proposed mandatory safety standard for glass & plastic panels & doors used in homes, schools & public & other buildings. Standard does not apply to regular windows & storm windows—but mostly to large areas of glass that persons may fall into or through.

Since CPSC estimates 190,000 injuries associated with architectural glazing materials are treated every year in hospital emergency rooms, proposed standard is intended to make sure the glass does not break when hit with a certain force. If the glass does break, it should do so in a way that reduces risk of injury.

Impact test requirements are specified as well as weathering tests. Also, when adopted, proposed standard would prohibit "stockpiling" of noncomplying glazing materials.

Rules on labeling & certification of glazing materials will be proposed later.

CPSC has considered the inflation impact of the proposed standards—copies of the inflation impact statement are available for inspection at address listed below.

Details—*Federal Register*: Feb. 11, page 6178; Nov. 1, 1974, page 38715; Aug. 21, 1974, page 30191; May 28, 1974, page 18502. CONSUMER REGISTER: Nov. 15, Sept 15 & June 15, 1974. Send comments to Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207.

## Credit cards & air travel

Consumers Union (CU) is asking **Civil Aeronautics Board** (CAB) to prohibit airlines from giving preferential treatment to credit card air passengers. In addition, CU wants the airlines to make sure the cost of extending passenger credit is paid for by the credit customers only.

Before deciding to propose a rule on CU's petition, CAB wants to consider the views of other interested persons, particularly to find out how much credit card transactions cost as opposed to cash & check transactions.

March 18 is deadline for filing answers to the petition.

Details—*Federal Register*: Feb. 6, page 5419. Send comments to Docket Section, Civil Aeronautics Board, Washington, DC 20428. Refer to Docket No. 28689.

## Orange juice

**Agriculture Dept.** is permitting a new way of measuring the color of orange juice for the following orange juice products: U. S. standards for canned orange juice, frozen concentrated orange juice, concentrated orange juice for manufacturing, canned concentrated orange juice, dehydrated orange juice, pasteurized orange juice & orange juice from concentrate.

Florida Cannery Association originally asked Agriculture to change the standards—which are for the voluntary use of industry—to permit the use of photo-electric measurement of color for processed juice. (Under the old system, Federal Government graders matched orange juice samples against official color standards; this system is permitted to continue.) Samples range from yellow-orange, the most desirable color, down to yellow.

In addition to using the new method for determining color, the amendment permits the use of early-maturing varieties of oranges (yellow colored) to qualify as U.S. Grade A juice more often than they do now for U.S. Grade A pasteurized orange juice & orange juice from concentrate.

For a long time, orange juice producers have blended the light-colored, early-season orange juice with the later, deeper-colored juice (by storing the early varieties); but storage costs are passed on to consumers. Agriculture says direct marketing of early season juice, without storage costs, could save consumers money. Flavor & Vitamin C content of the early season juice are high, but the color did not qualify it for Grade A. Therefore, Agriculture says U.S. standards were discriminatory against the early season orange producers.

Amendments became effective Feb. 17.

Details—*Federal Register*: Jan. 16, page 2367.

## Meat labels—"pure" & simple

**Agriculture Dept.** is giving makers of certain meat products until July 1 to comply with new labeling requirements.

Agriculture amended its regulations in December 1974 to prohibit the use of such terms as "all," "pure" & "100%" on meat & poultry product labels—unless, of course the product consists of only one ingredient. An example of a non-misleading label would be "Pure Lard"—as long as no additives are added to the lard. When additives or other ingredients are added to meat & poultry products—such as additives in lard—terms like "pure" are misleading to consumers.

Agriculture said manufacturers of these products could have a year to comply with the new labeling requirements—so as to use existing labels. The year ended Dec. 31, 1975. Because of pork shortages & resulting price increases, fewer products were sold & manufacturers have substantial inventories of unused labels that carry the prohibited words. Therefore, because of the cost of changing or destroying existing labels & because no hazard is involved, Agriculture has decided to postpone the effective date for changing labels until July 1. However, labels purchased after Jan. 1, 1975, must comply with the regulations by Dec. 31, 1975.

Details—*Federal Register*: Jan. 15, page 2225; Jan. 23, 1974, page 2609; Dec. 5, 1974, page 42338.

## Supplemental foods

Agriculture Dept.'s Food & Nutrition Service (FNS) has issued interim regulations to revise the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants & Children (WIC Program). The regulations, which became effective Jan. 8, include provisions for making specified food available to infants, children up to 5 years & pregnant or nursing women who are individually determined to need special food—such as extra milk, cereals & cheese. These foods provide additional iron, calcium & Vitamins A & C needed by the women, infants & children.

In addition, provision is made for nutrition education services for all adult recipients & parents & guardians of recipient children. Purposes of the education program are to change dietary habits through maximum use of supplementary & other foods & to emphasize the relationship of good nutrition to good health.

Details—*Federal Register*: Jan. 12, page 1743.

## Tomato juice concentrate

Food & Drug Administration (FDA) has issued a temporary permit to Libby, McNeill & Libbey to test market tomato juice made from concentrate. The permit runs for 15 months, starting not

later than May 10, & will be sold in Kansas & Missouri. The product is made from concentrated tomato liquid & will be labeled "Tomato Juice From Concentrate."

Details—*Federal Register*: Feb. 10, page 5862.

## Hearings

FUNERAL INDUSTRY PRACTICES—**Federal Trade Commission (FTC)** announces the following dates & places for public hearings [*CONSUMER REGISTER*: Sept. 15, 1975]:

April 20, 9:30 a.m.

Room C-D, 2243 Federal Bldg., 26 Federal Plaza

New York, NY 10007

(To speak, write or call Ellen Zwiebel at above address by March 30; telephone: 202-264-1938.)

May 10, 9:30 a.m.

John C. Kluczynski Federal Bldg., Room 347 A-B

230 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60604

(To speak, write or call [by April 19]—Alan Krause, Federal Trade Commission, Suite 1437, 55 E. Monroe St., Chicago, IL 60603; telephone: 312-353-2183.)

June 1, 9:30 a.m.

Room 3086, Federal Bldg.

915 Second Ave., Seattle, WA 98174

(To speak, write or call Rachel Goodisman at above address by May 11; telephone: 206-442-4655.)

June 9, 9:30 a.m.

Room 13209, Federal Bldg, 11000 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90024

(To speak, write or call Kendall H. MacVey at above address by May 19; telephone: 213-824-7575.)

June 28, 9:30 a.m.

Room 810, 730 Peachtree St., NE

Atlanta, GA 30308

To speak, write or call Russell Rohde at above address by June 7; telephone: 404-285-5836.)

July 19, 9:30 a.m.

Federal Trade Commission Bldg.

6th & Pennsylvania Ave., NW

Washington, DC 20580

(To speak, write or call William P. Golden at above address by June 28; telephone: 202-523-3578.)

Details—*Federal Register*: Feb. 20, page 7787; Aug. 29, 1975, page 39901. *CONSUMER REGISTER*: Sept. 15, 1975.

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## For you

These forms are for you to use, if you wish, in commenting on any Federal Agency proposal summarized in CONSUMER REGISTER. Of course, if you cannot get your comments on the front & back of a form, feel free to continue your comments on additional paper.

Send comment forms to addresses listed in the summaries.

CONSUMER NEWS is publishing these forms in cooperation with Food & Drug Administration (FDA).

## Rate Register

### Planes

•Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) is permitting some airlines to roll back fare increases that they originally asked for—because some competing airlines did not put the authorized 1% increase into effect [RATE REGISTER: Feb 15]. This authorization expires April 25.

•March 19 is deadline for comments on Civil Aeronautics Board's (CAB) proposal to offer consumers an experimental, low-cost air charter service: Advance Booking Charter (ABC). ABC travelers would not have to be members of any organized group; would not have to pay a varied price depending on the number of passengers actually on a given flight; & would not have to purchase ground accommodations or any other tour package (although tour packages could be offered).

Highlights of the proposed charter service: (1) ABC passenger would buy a round trip ticket from an independent tour operator or travel agent 30 days before flight time—60 days advance notice would be required for some European countries; (2) no minimum fare level would be established; (3) ABC passengers would have to travel together when they depart & return—but CAB is interested in comments on permitting individual travelers who leave with one ABC group to be "intermingled" on their return flight with another ABC group organized by the same operator; (4) no minimum duration is proposed except for certain European countries, where the duration would be 7 days; unless extended by CAB, ABCs would end March 31, 1981.

(Continued next page)

March 1, 1976

Clip this form, fill in blanks, write your comments & mail to agency noted in CONSUMER REGISTER item.

This is my opinion on (title of item in CONSUMER REGISTER) \_\_\_\_\_

by (name of agency) \_\_\_\_\_

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## Rate Register

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CAB does not feel these new charters will unduly divert air traffic from the regular air service because "... scheduled service will continue to be more attractive than ABCs for businessmen & others who need the flexibility & certainty of travel arrangements which are available only in regular scheduled service."

Details—*Federal Register*: Feb. 18, page 7417. Send comments to Docket Section, Civil Aeronautics Board, Washington, DC 20428; refer to Docket 28852.

•United Airlines has asked Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) for permission to offer a night-coach discount fare between New York & the West Coast & Chicago & the West Coast. If the new discount fares are approved, they will go into effect March 27 & would be 35% lower than regular fares. The "Freedom Fares" for day travelers will remain in effect. Round trip night coach fares between New York & Los Angeles would be \$247 (compared with \$380 for regular coach & \$266 for "Freedom Fares.") Travelers must reserve 2 weeks in advance & stay at least 7 days. Also, no more than 35% of the coach seats on any one plane may be used by discount travelers.

## Freight

•On Feb. 20, Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) approved a request by the nation's main rail lines to increase their freight rates 7%. Increases will become effective March 6. However, since Southern Pacific Transportation Co. [RATE REGISTER: Feb. 1] did not ask for the increase, Western Railroad Association is not joining the other railroads in the increase—for competitive reasons.

## Trains

Beginning today, Amtrak's USARAIL Pass [RATE REGISTER: Oct. 15, 1975] can be used for unlimited travel anywhere in the Amtrak rail passenger system—except Metroliners. It is available to citizens of the US, Mexico & Canada for a 2.5-month test period. Until now, USARAIL Passes could only be sold overseas for the use of foreign visitors to the US.

•Beginning today, Amtrak is beginning a new \$129 Montreal-Florida round-trip excursion fare for coach travel with children's half-fare tickets included.

## Mail

•Consumers mailing income tax returns may find that their envelopes weigh more than 28 grams (one ounce). A 13¢ stamp is required for the first 28 grams, but only 11¢ is required for each additional 28-gram (ounce) weight.

